

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE DIVISION[645]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)"b."

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 147.76, the Board of Behavioral Science hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 5, "Fees," and Chapter 31, "Licensure of Marital and Family Therapists and Mental Health Counselors," Iowa Administrative Code.

These proposed amendments set the fee for a temporary license, define requirements for temporary licensure for marital and family therapists and mental health counselors, and further clarify the requirements for the supervised work experience.

Any interested person may make written comments on the proposed amendments no later than 4:30 p.m. on July 7, 2009, addressed to Judy Manning, Professional Licensure Division, Department of Public Health, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0075; E-mail jmanning@idph.state.ia.us.

A public hearing will be held on July 7, 2009, from 9:30 to 10 a.m. in the Fifth Floor Board Conference Room, Lucas State Office Building, at which time persons may present their views either orally or in writing. At the hearing, persons will be asked to give their names and addresses for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of the proposed amendments.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 21, 147, 154D and 272C.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Renumber subrules **5.3(2)** to **5.3(8)** as **5.3(3)** to **5.3(9)**.

ITEM 2. Adopt the following **new** subrule 5.3(2):

5.3(2) Temporary license fee for license to practice marital and family therapy or mental health counseling is \$120.

ITEM 3. Rescind rule 645—31.2(154D) and adopt the following **new** rule in lieu thereof:

645—31.2(154D) Requirements for permanent and temporary licensure. The following criteria shall apply to licensure:

31.2(1) The applicant shall complete a board-approved application. Application forms may be obtained from the board's Web site (<http://www.idph.state.ia.us/licensure>) or directly from the board office. All applications shall be sent to the Board of Behavioral Science, Professional Licensure Division, Fifth Floor, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0075.

31.2(2) The applicant shall complete the application form according to the instructions contained in the application. If the application is not completed according to the instructions, the application will not be reviewed by the board.

31.2(3) Each application shall be accompanied by the appropriate fees payable to the Board of Behavioral Science. The fees are nonrefundable.

31.2(4) No application will be considered by the board until official copies of academic transcripts sent directly from the school to the board of behavioral science have been received by the board or an equivalency evaluation completed by the Center for Credentialing and Education, Inc. (CCE) has been received by the board. The applicant shall present proof of meeting the educational requirements. Documentation of such proof shall be on file in the board office with the application and include one of the following:

a. For licensure as a marital and family therapist, an official transcript verifying completion of a marital and family therapy program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and

Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE) as defined in subrule 31.4(1) or an equivalency evaluation of the applicant's educational credentials completed by CCE as defined in subrule 31.4(2).

b. For licensure as a mental health counselor, an official transcript verifying completion of a mental health counseling program accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) as defined in subrule 31.6(1) or an equivalency evaluation of the applicant's educational credentials completed by CCE as defined in subrule 31.6(2).

31.2(5) The candidate for permanent licensure shall have the examination score sent directly from the testing service to the board. If the candidate for temporary licensure has not completed the examination prior to issuance of a temporary license, the candidate must successfully complete the examination before the temporary license expires.

31.2(6) The candidate for permanent licensure shall submit the required attestation of supervision forms documenting clinical experience as required in rule 645—31.5(154D) for marital and family therapy and rule 645—31.7(154D) for mental health counseling.

31.2(7) The candidate for temporary licensure for the purpose of fulfilling the postgraduate supervised clinical experience requirement must submit the Supervised Clinical Experience: Approval and Attestation form to the board and receive approval of the candidate's supervisor(s) prior to licensure. The temporary licensee must notify the board immediately in writing of any proposed change in supervisor(s) and obtain approval of any change in supervisor(s). Within 30 days of completion of the supervised clinical experience, the attestation of the completed supervised experience must be submitted to the board office.

31.2(8) A temporary license for the purpose of fulfilling the postgraduate supervised clinical experience requirement is valid for three years and may be renewed at the discretion of the board.

31.2(9) A licensee who was issued an initial permanent license within six months prior to the renewal shall not be required to renew the license until the renewal date two years later.

31.2(10) Incomplete applications that have been on file in the board office for more than two years shall be:

- a.* Considered invalid and shall be destroyed; or
- b.* Maintained upon written request of the applicant. The applicant is responsible for requesting that the file be maintained.

ITEM 4. Amend paragraphs **31.5(1)“a”** and **“b”** as follows:

- a.* Be a minimum of two years or the equivalent of full-time, postgraduate supervised clinical work experience in marital and family therapy;
- b.* Be completed following the practicum, internship, and all graduate coursework, with the exception of the thesis;

ITEM 5. Amend paragraphs **31.7(1)“a”** and **“b”** as follows:

- a.* Be a minimum of two years or the equivalent of full-time, postgraduate supervised professional work experience in mental health counseling;
- b.* Be completed following completion of the practicum, internship, and all graduate coursework, with exception of the thesis;